

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 /082 W
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R 271446Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1674
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 12622

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, PBOR, KE, SO
SUBJECT: KENYAN CALL FOR U.S., ALLIED PRESSURE ON SOMALIA

REF: NAIROBI 12427

1. STATEMENT OF SOMALI MINES MINISTER QASSIM (REPORTED REFTTEL) ON KENYA-SOMALI "PROBLEM" HAS PROVOKED CONTINUED REACTION BOTH OFFICIALLY AND IN LOCAL PRESS.
2. LOCAL MEDIA FEATURED SEPTEMBER 24 STATEMENT BY ACTING FONMIN OSOGO IN WHICH HE SAID HE WAS SURPRISED SUCH AN UNFORTUNATE REMARK WAS MADE BY MR. QASSIM, ADDING HE HAD MADE IT CLEAR TO QASSIM DURING TALKS LAST WEEK THAT "KENYA DOES NOT HAVE ANY PROBLEMS WITH SOMALIA AND THAT SOMALI CLAIMS TO ANY PART OF KENYAN TERRITORY SHOULD BE RENOUNCED."
3. SEPTEMBER 26 DAILY NATION EDITORIAL, REFERRING TO QASSIM VISIT, TOOK TO TASK U.S., BRITAIN, AND FRANCE FOR NOT DOING ENOUGH TO "FORCE SOMALIA TO VACATE ITS AGGRESSION AGAINST EHTIOPIA." EDITORIAL SAID "IT IS CONFIDENTIAL

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NOT ENOUGH FOR THEM (U.S., BRITAIN, AND FRANCE) SINGLY OR JOINTLY TO TELL THE WORLD THAT THEY ARE NOT GIVING THE SOMALIS ARMS. THEY MUST COME OUT CLEARLY AND OPENLY AGAINST MOGADISCIO'S AGGRESSION." ALTHOUGH DAILY NATION IS NOT GOVERNMENT OWNED, IT GENERALLY REPRESENTS GOK LINE IN FOREIGN RELATIONS.

4. DURING COURTESY CALL SEPTEMBER 27 AT FOREIGN
MINISTRY, POLITICAL COUNSELOR WAS TOLD BY
L.N. MWANGI, CHIEF OF AFRICA AND OAU AFFAIRS DIVISION,
THAT UNITED STATES SHOULD "TELL SOMALIA" TO DROP ITS
TERRITORIAL CLAIMS AGAINST KENYA. MWANGI SAID EITHER
PUBLIC OR CONFIDENTIAL RENUNCIATION OF THE CLAIMS WOULD
SATISFY KENYA. HE ALSO EXPRESSED GOK'S DISPLEASURE WITH
QASSIM'S RECENT TRIP SAYING THAT LIKE VISIT TO KENYA OF
SOMALI VICE PRESIDENT LATE JULY, QASIM'S TRIP CAME
"ABRUPTLY," WITHOUT INVITATION, AND DISCOURTESY WAS
AMPLIFIED BY PROVOCATIVE PRESS CONFERENCE REMARK ON
"PROBLEM" BETWEEN KENYA AND SOMALIA.

5. COMMENT: KENYA LINE THAT U.S. SHOULD ACTIVELY
PRESSURE SOMALIA INTO DROPPING TERRITORIAL CLAIMS
APPEARS TACK THAT IS LIKELY TO PERSIST AS LONG AS
OGADEN FIGHTING.
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